

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inserting ~~a drainage tube~~ an apparatus into a ~~colon~~ bowel, comprising the steps of:

inserting a guidewire into the ~~colon~~ bowel through ~~the anus and rectum~~ an opening into the bowel; then

~~pushing and manipulating the guidewire forward through the colon to the cecum;~~

~~passing a filament, unattached to the guidewire, from outside the bowel through the colon~~
~~bowel wall into the bowel lumen and into initial engagement with the guidewire at a location in~~
~~the bowel;~~

~~withdrawing the guidewire from the colon and out of the anus~~ bowel through the opening into the bowel, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the filament through the ~~colon~~ bowel and out of the ~~anus~~ opening;

~~attaching a drainage tube having apertures therein~~ the apparatus to a portion of the
~~filament after the guidewire and said portion of the filament have been withdrawn from the~~
~~bowel; and~~

~~drawing the filament with attached drainage tube~~ apparatus back through the ~~anus~~
~~opening~~ into the ~~colon~~ until the drainage tube extends substantially entirely through the colon;
~~and fixing the drainage tube in place in the bowel.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of passing the filament through the ~~colon~~ bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises ~~the steps of~~ forming the guidewire with a through channel and passing the filament through the channel of the guidewire.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of passing the filament through the ~~colon~~ bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire further comprises ~~the steps of forming the channel in a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire to thereby provide the bulbous enlargement with at least one flat side, and passing a needle with threaded~~ the filament engaged therewith through the ~~colon~~ bowel wall and through the channel.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ locating a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire in the ~~cecum~~ bowel, the filament being passed through the ~~colon~~ bowel wall and into engagement with the bulbous enlargement.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching the filament to the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus comprises ~~the steps of~~ passing the filament through a tip of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus and tying it around a wall of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching the ~~filament to the drainage tube apparatus to the filament~~ comprises ~~the steps of~~ passing the filament through a tip of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus and out a side hole thereof and then tying the filament to a filament button, and pulling on the filament so that the filament button returns to the interior of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus and abuts against the inner surface of the tip of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus, the filament button being dimensioned such that it is unable to pass back out through the tip of the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus thereby securing the filament to the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 53, wherein the step of fixing the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus in place comprises ~~the steps of~~ cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the ~~drainage tube~~ apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall and fixing this portion of the filament to the patient's skin.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 53, wherein the step of fixing the drainage-tube apparatus in place comprises ~~the steps of cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus~~, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall to an exterior of the body, winding the filament outside of the ~~abdominal cavity~~ body onto a spool and fixing the spool on the ~~abdominal surface~~ body.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 53, wherein the step of fixing the drainage-tube apparatus in place comprises ~~the step of~~ passing a forward extension portion of the drainage-tube apparatus through colon bowel wall and the abdominal wall and securing the drainage-tube apparatus to the patient's skin.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, ~~wherein further comprising~~ securing the drainage-tube ~~is secured~~ apparatus to the patient's skin with suture, tape or a collar.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ passing the filament back out the wall of the bowel, so that it penetrates the bowel wall in two locations, clamping a first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends such that as the guidewire is withdrawn from the colon bowel and out of the anus opening, the second end of the filament is drawn through the colon bowel and out of the anus opening, the drainage-tube apparatus being attached to the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament.

12-46. (Cancelled)

47. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising forming a structure on the guidewire which is adapted to enable the filament to be engaged therewith.

48. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, where the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall, through a channel in the guidewire, and through the bowel wall, so that the needle passes completely through the bowel.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, further comprising holding the needle with the filament engaged therewith when withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

51. (New) The method of claim 49, further comprising:
severing the needle after the filament is engaged with the guidewire; and
clamping a forward end of the filament before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

52. (New) The method of claim 49, further comprising:
passing the needle through the abdominal wall and out of the body after the filament is engaged with the guidewire and the needle is passed out of the bowel; and then
clamping a forward end of the filament outside of the body before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

53. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising fixing the apparatus in place in the bowel.

54. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a tubular apparatus.
55. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a drainage tube.
56. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the opening into the bowel is the anus.
57. (New) The method of claim 3, further comprising forming the bulbous enlargement with a diameter of about 0.25 inches to about 0.75 inches.
58. (New) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:
inserting a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel; then
passing a filament through the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and into engagement with the guidewire;
withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the filament through the bowel and out of the opening;
attaching the apparatus to the filament after the guidewire and engaged filament have been withdrawn from the bowel; and
drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the opening into the bowel;
the step of attaching the apparatus to the filament comprising passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and out a side hole thereof and then tying the filament to a filament button, and pulling on the filament so that the filament button returns to the interior of the apparatus and abuts against the inner surface of the tip of the apparatus, the filament button being dimensioned such that it is unable to pass back out through the tip of the apparatus thereby securing the filament to the apparatus.
59. (New) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:

inserting a forward end of a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel;
then

passing the forward end of the guidewire to a second location in the bowel, then
without the forward end of the guidewire exiting the bowel, passing a filament through
the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and then bringing the filament and forward end of the
guidewire into engagement with one another at the second location in the bowel;

withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel through the opening into the bowel, after the
filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the filament through the bowel and out
of the opening;

attaching the apparatus to the filament after the guidewire and a portion of the engaged
filament have been withdrawn from the bowel;

drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the opening in the bowel and
through the bowel.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the opening into the bowel is a natural
orifice.

61. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the opening into the bowel is the anus.

62. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the apparatus is a tube.

63. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the apparatus is a drainage tube having
apertures.

64. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of passing the filament through
the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises forming the guidewire with a
through channel and passing the filament through the channel of the guidewire.

65. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire further comprises forming the channel in a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire, and passing a needle with threaded filament through the bowel wall and through the channel.

66. (New) The method of claim 65, further comprising forming the bulbous enlargement with a diameter of about 0.25 inches to about 0.75 inches.

67. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising locating a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire in the bowel, the filament being passed through the bowel wall and into engagement with the bulbous enlargement.

68. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein further comprising forming a structure on the guidewire which is adapted to enable the filament to be engaged therewith.

69. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising holding the needle with the filament engaged therewith when withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

71. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising:
severing the needle after the filament is engaged with the guidewire; and
clamping a forward end of the filament before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

72. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising:
passing the needle from the inside of the bowel out of the body after the filament is engaged with the guidewire; and then
clamping a forward end of the filament outside of the body before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

73. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of attaching the filament to the apparatus comprises passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and tying it around a wall of the apparatus.

74. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising fixing the apparatus in place in the bowel.

75. (New) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall and fixing this portion of the filament to the patient's skin.

76. (New) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall to an exterior of the body, winding the filament outside of the body onto a spool and fixing the spool on the body.

77. (New) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises passing a forward extension portion of the apparatus through bowel wall and the abdominal wall and securing the apparatus to the patient's skin.

78. (New) The method of claim 77, further comprising securing the apparatus to the patient's skin with suture, tape or a collar.

79. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising passing the filament back out the wall of the bowel, so that it penetrates the bowel wall in two locations, clamping a first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends such that as the guidewire is withdrawn from the bowel and out of the opening, the second end of the filament is drawn through the bowel and out of the opening, the apparatus being attached to the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament.

80. (New) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:
inserting a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel;
engaging filament to a needle outside of the bowel prior to formation of a passage for or by the needle through the bowel wall; then
passing the needle with engaged filament from outside the bowel through the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and into engagement with the guidewire at a location in the bowel;
withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the filament through the bowel and out of the opening;
attaching the apparatus to the filament after the guidewire and engaged filament have been withdrawn from the bowel; and
drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the opening into the bowel.

81. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising locating a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire in the bowel, the filament being passed through the bowel wall and into engagement with the bulbous enlargement.